[English]

Running of Parallel Government

760. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether militants under the command of Majlis-e-Shovra-e-Jehd are running a parallel Government in Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of it;

(c) whether the Shovra has asked traders not pay tax to Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d): Government are aware of reported calls by the militants warning the people against paying taxes etc. A close and continuous watch is being kept on the situation.

Oil Exploration

761. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of potential oil reserve available in Sircreek area in Lakhapat Taluka of Kutch District of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether any exploration activities have been carried out there;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the further activities proposed to be taken in oil exploration in this area by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The geoscientific surveys and exploratory drilling have been carried out in the area and so far, 31420 sq. km. (SDM) geological surveys, 8567 stations of GM surveys, 2061 GLK and 4,429 SLK of seismic surveys have been carried out and 5 exploratory wells have been drilled. However, no hydrocarbon discovery has been made.

(d) In various rounds of exploration bidding, Government of India has offered blocks in the Kutch area for exploration by private/multinational parties. The award of two blocks has been approved and negotiations are on to finalise the contract.

Relation Between Politicians and Bureaucrats

762. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code to demarcate the relationship between politicians and bureaucrats; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) The Government are considering a charter of Ethics for Public Services, which would incorporate the core values necessary for effective and efficient functioning of the bureaucracy

Committee on Reservation

763. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any sub-committee of the Cabinet has been set up to look into the matter of 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes in the Central Government Services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drinking Water Facility in Assam

764. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of cities for which the schemes for providing drinking water facility has been sent by the Government of Assam so far for approval of the Union Government; and

(b) the estimated cost proposed by the State Government in regard to each of the cities and the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme eligible for towns having population below 20,000 (as per 1991 census). Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in respect of 9 towns have been received from the Government of Assam. The names of the towns and the estimated cost of each water supply schemes is given below: